



Coalition Meeting: December 13, 2017 1pm

- **Welcomes/Introductions**
- **Debbie Riscica presentation on FASD (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders)**
 - Background:
 - ➔ FASD is a spectrum of a disorders that has lifelong implications
 - ➔ Can lead to physical, mental and behavioral disabilities
 - ➔ Damage from alcohol consumption can occur as early as 2 weeks from conception
 - ➔ Alcohol is the most toxic substance to a fetus
 - ➔ Includes many terms based on the amount of alcohol exposure in utero
 - ➔ Is included in the DSM-V
 - ➔ FASD is the leading cause of preventable intellectual disabilities (damage to this occurs in the 3rd trimester of pregnancy)
 - ➔ Can lead to poor impulse control, poor understanding of consequences, problems with safety, poor self-regulation (ability to cope with anger and stressful situations)
- **Community Surveys**
 - Very important way we collect data directly from the community
 - Helps us monitor any changes in community knowledge and social norms
 - If you are at any community event, please bring some
 - Anyone over the age of 18 who lives in Middlesex County can complete it
- **Be Smart About Medicine Contest is starting soon**
 - For middle school students in the county
 - Students submit a piece of artwork (drawing, poem) about why it is important to be smart about medicine
 - Jenna is spearheading a subcommittee to help plan the event
 - ➔ **The first meeting for the BSAM subcommittee will take place on January 3, 2018 at 10am at Wellspring**
 - A list of previous schools who have participated will be attached with the minutes
 - If anyone has any contacts with the schools (6/7/8th grade), please share them in order to get more participation from new schools
- **Tobacco 21**



- Went into effect on November 1
- Advocacy for tobacco licensing
- If any coalition member would like Tobacco 21 materials (yellow license plate stickers, cards that explain proper ID protocol) please reach out to Mara
- **Young Women's Conference, 2/28**
 - To be held at the DCF Building in New Brunswick
 - Planning process has begun
 - Start planning for school involvement and bussing and transportation for students
- **Drug and Alcohol Facts Week**
 - Wellspring Center for Prevention and the Coalition for Healthy Communities will be posting "fact blasts" on social media
 - ➔ One fact a day will be posted on Facebook/Twitter
 - A list of facts will be sent to anyone who wants to post their own social media accounts
 - Each day of the week will be focused on a different substance
 - Schools have shown interest in tabling events during lunch for students (bringing prizes, bringing the wheel, asking questions, providing information in the cafeteria) during the week
- **Data Outcomes Workgroup**
 - A new needs assessment needs to be completed with updated data and information for 2018
 - A data outcomes workgroup will be created, and the first meeting for this subcommittee will take place on: **Monday, January 8th at 1pm**
 - If you have any knowledge about potential data sources, or were involved in the first data workgroup, please contact either Mara or Melisa
- **DEA Prevention Video Challenge**
 - Create a 30-60 second Public Service Announcement (PSA) aimed at teens about the opioid epidemic
 - Prizes include:
 - ➔ 1st place: \$10,000 scholarship
 - ➔ 2nd place: \$5,000 scholarship
 - ➔ 3rd place: \$1,000 scholarship
 - ➔ People's Choice Prize: 2 day trip to Washington, D.C. including a day at the DEA's training academy in Quantico
- **Needle Exchange Program**
 - Spearheaded by Gina



- There are only 5 needle exchange programs in the state of New Jersey (Paterson, Newark, Atlantic City, Asbury Park and Camden) and the ones in Paterson and Newark were shut down
- A sign-up sheet to work on this was passed around
- If you are interested in joining this, please contact Mara or Gina
- **Marijuana Legalization**
 - In New Jersey, the vote will not be on the ballot but will be decided in the legislature (may provide municipalities the option to opt-in or opt-out)
 - It is important now to educate the public about the ramifications of legalization
 - Potentially reaching out to Dwayne Smith of the Safe Kids of NJ Coalition
- **1% Tobacco Tax Conditionally Vetoed**
 - 1% of tobacco sales would be funded back for tobacco prevention
 - It was conditionally vetoed by Governor Christie pending changes
 - Needs to be signed now and plan for \$700 million to be implemented for tobacco prevention by the summer
 - NJ ranks 48th in the country in preventing tobacco use among youth
- **NJ Coalition Against Human Trafficking**
 - On January 11, 2018 from 8am-3pm there will be a virtual summit that will be livestreamed on Facebook for anyone to tune in and watch
 - Possibly have it broadcasted on outdoor screens for larger audiences (at places of work)